

The Open Space and Trails Committee met on Thursday, August 7, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. at Seabrook City Hall, 1700 First Street, Seabrook, Texas to discuss and if appropriate, take action on the agenda items listed below.

THOSE PRESENT WERE:

Helen Burton	Chair
Sally Antrobus	Vice-Chair
John Coggeshall (Exc. Abs.)	Member
Monica Comeaux	Member
Debra Harper	Member
Karen Tisdell	Member
David Popken	Member
Meredith Brant	Assistant City Secretary

**1.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no comments.

**2.0 BUSINESS**

**2.1 Report on meeting with City Manager.**

Ms. Burton stated that she had met with Ms. Cook and she plans to implement a capital expenditures plan for the parks. She added that possible projects to be funded include additional parking for Hester and Robinson Parks, a kayak launching site and emergency contact information along the trails.

**2.2 Report on meeting with Public Works.**

Ms. Burton reported that she had met with Saul and he assured her that the steep access to the bridge in the park will be leveled out once the bridge is complete.

**2.3 Update and consideration of the marsh grasses and barrier plants.**

Ms. Harper stated that she would like to see willow trees planted in the area.

Ms. Tisdell reported that the green netting is almost invisible and is effective in keeping people out of the marsh. Consequently, the marsh grass is thriving. She added that she would like to plant more grass closer to the jetties. Ms. Antrobus stated that berry vines would create perfect barriers, but the key to growth is not mowing that area.

Motion was made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Ms. Harper

To cease mowing Pine Gully Park at the end of the parking lot.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**2.4 Update on Texas Parks & Wildlife trail. (Coggeshall)**

Ms. Burton reported that staff is working on the trail, putting in culverts, but work is going slow.

**2.5 Review Action Items for Staff.**

- **No parking zone.** Ms. Burton stated Parks staff has been asked to create a no parking zone at Pine Gully Park.
- **Extending the trail that ends short of Park Drive.** Parks staff has also been asked to extend this trail.

Another item for consideration is installation of doggie bags in the parks.

**2.6 Reconsider park assignments.**

Park assignments remained the same except that David Popken was assigned Meador and Miramar Parks.

**2.7 Consider advisability of a dog park. (Comeaux)**

Ms. Comeaux stated that she had not been able to find much information on dog parks, but would do further research of comparable towns and bring back that information to the next meeting.

Ms. Antrobus stated that dog parks are often needed in high density areas where there is little green space.

**2.8 Consider updates on the previously discussed items:**

- **Park benches** – Ms. Burton stated that there is one new bench in Pine Gully Park and one in Robinson Park.
- **Little free library** – The little free library has been repaired, but books are not being replaced. Meador library has provided some books for it.
- **Trees** – Trees are doing great.

**2.9 Consider Staff appreciation luncheon.**

The staff appreciation luncheon is scheduled for October 8 at noon.

**2.10 Consider recommending to council that the parcel of land for the Parks and Wildlife trail be turned into a city park. (Antrobus)**

Motion was made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Ms. Tisdell

To recommend to City Council that they formally add to Wildlife Park the newly acquired land (the wooded land between the proposed new city facility and Wildlife Park) recognizing that it is prime wooded land which would be a major asset to the park system and its location takes advantage of both sides of the waterway.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**3.0 ROUTINE BUSINESS**

**3.1 Update on recent and ongoing park activities and improvements.**

Ms. Harper stated that she would like to see more trees and vegetation near Baybrook Park. Ms. Burton stated that could be a staff action item for when funding and time are available.

**3.2 Approve the minutes of the July 3, 2014 meeting.**

Ms. Burton pointed out two typos on the minutes where "Mr." should be changed to "Ms." Ms. Brant stated that she would make the corrections as well as add line numbers.

Motion was made by Ms. Antrobus and seconded by Mr. Popken

To approve the corrected minutes.

MOTION CARRIED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENT.

**3.3 Consider Action Items Checklist which is attached and made a part of this agenda.**

#14 – Ms. Burton stated that she has made contact with a person who has ideas for how to get funding for the connector trail to Armand Bayou when the time comes for that project.

**3.4 Consider upcoming meeting dates and agenda items.**

Ms. Burton stated that an additional action item for staff would be the placement of top soil and hydro mulch at Pine Gully.


The next meeting will be September 4. Agenda items will include:

- Marsh grasses and barrier plants
- Action items for staff
- Dog Park
- Updates
- Staff Appreciation Luncheon

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

  
Meredith Brant, Secretary



  
Helen Burton, Chair